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o CHINA

-- Would appreciate your thoughts on the role the PRC is playing in the Middle East.

-- [redacted]

-- On the Saudi sale, the Chinese have responded to our expressions of concern by providing assurances that 1) China does not sell nuclear weapons to any country including Saudi Arabia, and 2) the CSS-2 missiles they have provided Saudi Arabia are armed only with conventional and not nuclear warheads.

-- Despite these assurances, we continue to believe the proliferation of ballistic missile systems and related technology is likely to have a destabilizing effect on any region in which they are introduced.

-- Have you raised concerns with the Chinese over their supply of weapons to the Iranians? [Including the sale of Silkworm missiles?] How do they respond?

We will continue to engage the PRC in a dialogue on a responsible approach to the problem of missile proliferation as well as a part of our Operation Staunch efforts.

B1,A5

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- 2 -

III. SOUTH KOREA

- o Egypt maintains full diplomatic relations with North Korea, but consular relations only with the South.

- o But we should make the point we believe balance in its relations with North and South Korea would be in Egyptian interests.

B1,A5

IV. CHINA

- o Egyptian relations with the PRC are good but not particularly close.
- o Boutros would welcome your thoughts on China's role in the region.

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